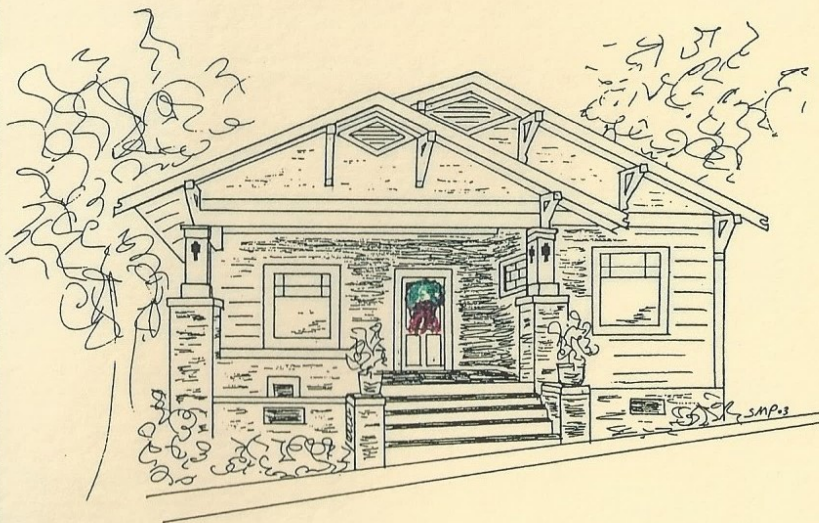


Candlelight on College Court The Bungalow Revisited



27th Annual Suffolk-Nansemond
Historical Society
Candlelight Tour

December 6th-7th, 2003

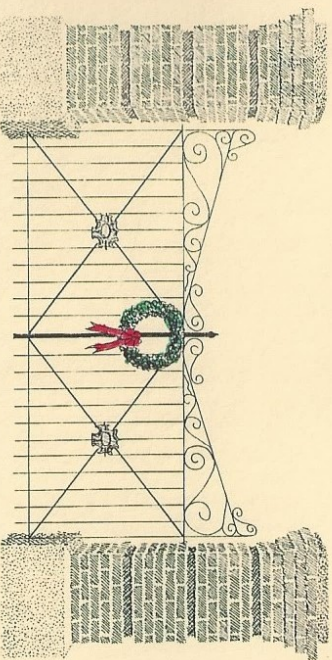
3:00-7:00pm



SUFFOLK NANSEMOND
P. O. Box 1255
Suffolk, Virginia 23439-1255
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Candlelight on College Court- The Bungalow Revisited
December 6th-7th 3:00-7:00pm



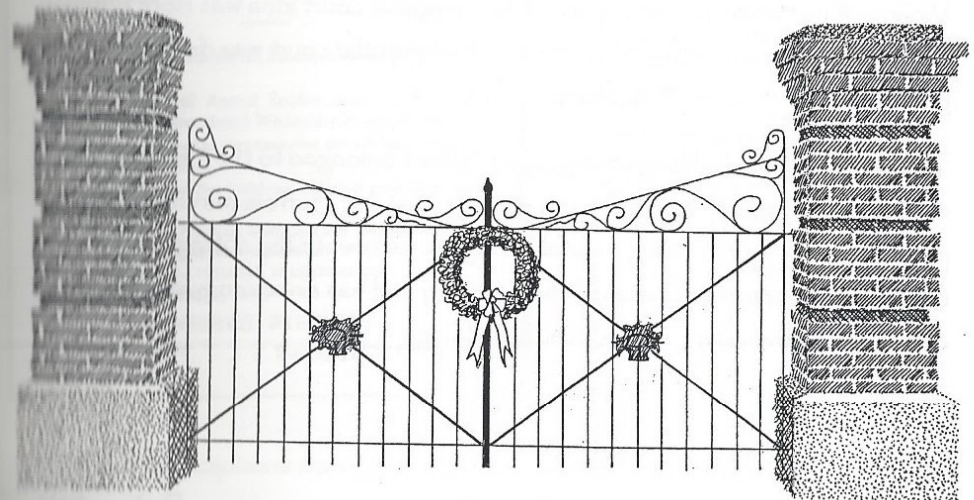
Dear Friends,

We are proud to open College Court for your enjoyment this year. When our property company, Preservation of Historic Suffolk, bought the court, (minus cottage #1 which had been sold several years ago), the formerly pleasant bungalows had fallen on hard times. Through the work of Garcia Development and the new homeowners, College Court has come back strong. Come celebrate with us.

All proceeds from this year's tour benefit the Dawson House project. We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy the tour.

Sue Woodward

President, Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society



History of College Court

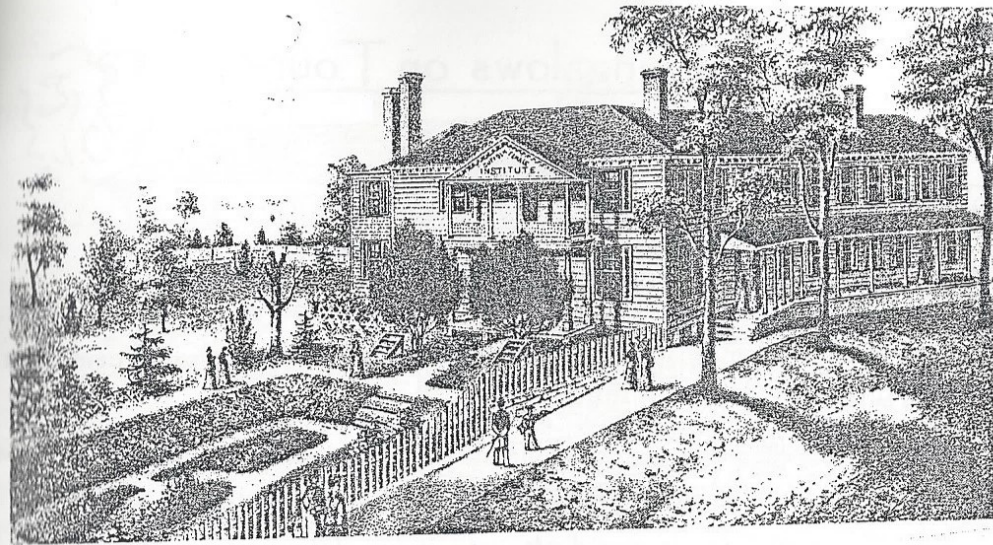
Early in the 19th Century, the Central Hotel occupied the property which is now "College Court." In 1871, innkeeper James McGuire sold the property to Miss Sallie Finney and her sisters. The Finneys had established Suffolk Female Institute (later known as "the College") in 1869. The school closed in 1908 when the Finney Sisters retired.

The next owner of the property was John Pinner, a successful businessman, who gave the property a new look and a new use. The center section was removed from the long hotel-turned-school and a large gate was installed. The two remaining sections of the school became apartments.

The gate was the main entrance to the bungalow court that Mr. Pinner constructed - College Court, named for the school that had been on that lot. College Court was a popular place to live in the first half of the century. Some families lived there for forty or fifty years. There were six bungalows that faced the court and their residents were well known in the community. The location of College Court was convenient for fathers to walk to work, children to walk to school and families to walk to church. Also, the doctor, the druggist, the post office, good clothing stores and nearly anything one might need for the home could be found a block or so away. Little wonder it was such a popular place.

College Court, including the large cottage and what remains of the Finney School, is part of a National Register district. The court is said to be unique in Virginia, if not on the East Coast. The bungalow court idea was more popular on the West Coast. Also unusual is the fact that the court was designed as a pedestrian court rather than a motor court.

The court and the buildings along Main Street belonged to the Pinner family until around 1987. In 2000, Preservation of Historic Suffolk purchased the property in hopes of finding a suitable buyer to renovate the cottages. In 2002, Garcia Development purchased the property and has since renovated the cottages and the main Finney School building.



After several years of operation on Washington Street, the Suffolk Female Institute moved into the former Central Hotel, located on Main Street north of Finney Avenue shown here. The southern end of the original building still stands.

Chartered 1881.

Suffolk Female Institute

FOR

YOUNG LADIES AND LITTLE GIRLS,

Board and Literary Tuition, \$160 per year.

The Charter authorizes the Faculty to confer all the regular Collegiate Degrees.

The Seventeenth Annual Session opens SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1886, and closes second Wednesday in June, 1887.

Students received at any time, but are advised to enter at the beginning of a term.

Suffolk is one of the healthiest and most accessible Towns in Virginia.

The Corps of Teachers is efficient and experienced. The home training, moral and attractive. Fine advantages in MUSIC, ART and LANGUAGES, at moderate rates.

For Catalogue apply to—

MISSSES FINNEY,
Box 146, SUFFOLK, VA.

See Illustration on page 50

An advertisement for Suffolk Female Institute. Miss Sallie Finney and her three sisters opened the school in 1869. It was among several private schools to open in Suffolk after the Civil War.

Bungalows on Tour



#2 College Court
Meechan Residence

This bungalow was the first one to be renovated by Garcia Development and was used as a model for potential home-buyers to College Court. The homeowners have started a small collection of tea-pots which will be displayed in their cozy bungalow dining room.

#3 College Court
Luther Residence



This homeowner is a fiber artist and has a studio in the home. Attempts are being made by the homeowner to keep the interior of this bungalow as original as possible to the 1910 period which it was built.



#4 College Court
Pollard Residence

Cottage #4 was in the most disrepair before being renovated and at one point, a tree was growing through this bungalow. When the homeowners signed the contract on the house, they could stand in the back of the basement and see the courtyard through a huge hole in the basement wall. Come see for yourself the success of this renovation!

310 North Main Street



This large bungalow differs from the others especially in size. It was reportedly built as a honeymoon cottage for the builder's son and his bride. Come browse through this house and enjoy a quilt exhibit, a display of period antiques, an exhibit on the history of Suffolk Female Institute, and purchase some home-made sweets from our "Sugar Plum Kitchen."

History of the Bungalow Style

Practical, efficient, but charming, how could one resist the appeal of a bungalow? The bungalow style, with its wide roof overhangs, was born in India in the late 1800's as home for the British living there. The bungalow had its heyday in America in the teens and twenties. One writer has called it the "rational answer to the excesses of the Victorian era and the dehumanizing machine-based lifestyle of the Industrial Age."

Bungalows celebrated the joys of hearth and home and encouraged a simpler lifestyle than the Victorians had known. They were one story (or one and a half story) buildings with no formal entrance hall. One entered the living room directly and there was always a fireplace giving warm welcome there. Bungalows were frequently painted green or brown to blend with the natural wood around them.

The bungalows at College Court were designed by Burwell Riddick for John B. Pinner, a local businessman. Bungalows were widely known to be so economical that they could be afforded by families who had not owned homes before. The bungalows at College Court, however, were built to be rental property and continued as such until the recent renovations occurred.

The living spaces in the typical bungalow were dark with wood paneling and wall colors reflecting the deep greens, browns and golds of the forests. The bathrooms- still a new idea for many Americans- were usually white as were the modern, efficient kitchens. The College Court bungalows were almost textbook examples with three bedrooms and one bath in most. The floor plans have changed with the recent additions of laundry rooms and extra baths. Each house is slightly different from the next. Each has its own door style. The brackets under the wide eaves vary from house to house and so do the windows.

The large bungalow, 310 N. Main Street, differs from the others especially in size. While it was home to the Kilby family for many years, it was reportedly built as a honeymoon cottage for the builder's son and his bride.



"My blood is all a tingle,
at the sound of blow on blow,
As I count each single shingle,
on my bosky bungalow."

From "Bungal Ode," a jingle by Burges Johnson which appeared in "Good Housekeeping" magazine in 1909.



For more information on the Bungalow style, we recommend:
American Bungalow Style by Robert Winter and Alexander Vertikoff
Inside the Bungalow by Paul Duchscherer and Douglas Keister
"American Bungalow" Magazine

Calendar of Events for Tour Weekend

Friday, December 5th

- 12 noon First Friday Concert- Main Street Church
5:00pm Downtown Illumination- Seaboard Station

Saturday, December 6th

- 10:00am Holiday Parade- Downtown
9:00-5:00pm Prentis House- Visitor Center Hours
10:00am-7:00pm Seaboard Station Hours
10:00am-7:00pm Riddick's Folly Hours
2:00pm Greenery & Wreath Demonstration &
Sale- Seaboard Station
3:00- 7:00pm Candlelight Tour - College Court

Sunday, December 7th

- 9:00-5:00pm Prentis House- Visitor Center Hours
1:00pm-7:00pm Seaboard Station Hours
1:00pm-7:00pm Riddick's Folly Hours
3:00- 7:00pm Candlelight Tour - College Court

Tour Weekend Events

- ❖ "FIRST FRIDAYS CONCERT" - Main Street United Methodist Church on Friday, Dec. 5th at 12 noon. Start your tour weekend with a musical treat of Advent and Christmas music performed by the Women's Chorus and Bell Ensemble of Main Street Church. The 30 minute concert is free and open to the public. Following the concert, a soup and sandwich luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Donations for the luncheon (\$5.00 suggested) will support the Organ Fund.
- ❖ The 2003 Candlelight Tour will be held at College Court on Dec. 6th and 7th from 3:00pm- 7:00pm. There will be four historic bungalows open for tour and decorated with seasonal greenery, fruits, and berries.
- ❖ Visit the large cottage at College Court (310 N. Main St.) and enjoy the following:
 - Quilt Exhibit
 - Display of period antiques by Main Street Antiques
 - Exhibit of the history of Suffolk Female Institute
- ❖ "SUGAR PLUM KITCHEN"- located in the large cottage at College Court (310 N. Main St.) Stop by to enjoy a hot cup of cider and purchase some scrumptious home-made holiday cookies, candies, and other delectable treats. If you have a sweet tooth, you will not want to miss this!
- ❖ RAFFLE DRAWING: Support historic preservation and the Dawson House project by purchasing Raffle Tickets for a 1938 Roadster Replica Pedal car which is perfect for children or grandchildren ages 3-5. Stop by the Seaboard Station to take a look and purchase your tickets (\$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00.) Drawing to be held Sunday, Dec. 7th at 7:00pm. Pedal car courtesy of Starr Motors in memory of Nellie White.

Events- continued

- ❖ HOLIDAY CARDS FOR SALE- Purchase your 2003 Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society Holiday Cards featuring a drawing of the College Court gateway by Lee King. Cards may be purchased in the Seaboard Station Gift Shop and all proceeds benefit the Dawson House project.
- ❖ "All Aboard!" - Your 2003 Candlelight Tour would not be complete without a visit to the SEABOARD STATION RAILROAD MUSEUM. The Gift Shop has a wide selection of Suffolk and Virginia historical publications, children's toys, note cards, unique accessories, cookbooks, peanuts and more!
- ❖ HOLIDAY GREENERY & WREATH DEMONSTRATION- Sat. Dec. 6th beginning at 2:00pm at the Seaboard Station. Come observe and learn more about decorating with fresh greenery and materials. Completed wreaths and greenery will be available for sale.
- ❖ Walk down Main Street and visit RIDDICK'S FOLLY to enjoy some of these festive holiday activities.
 - Tour of Christmas Past with "Anna Mary"
 - Exhibit of "Santa around the World"
 - Southern Christmas Desserts for sale
 - 5 x 7 Silhouettes by Lee King. These will be framed and wrapped for purchase.
 - Book Signing with Emilee Hines author of It Happened in Virginia
 - Gift Shop with unique Christmas ornaments and decorations

*The Seaboard Station & Riddick's Folly will be
open extended hours for tour:*

Sat. Dec. 6th 10am-7pm and Sun. Dec. 7th 1pm-7pm

Holiday Shopping on Main Street

While enjoying the 2003 Candlelight Tour, why not take care of your holiday shopping at some of these fine downtown stores.

Gardner Store

341 North Main Street

Holiday hours: Sat 10-6 & Sun 12-6 (Mon-Fri 10-6)

Shop for trendy and unique gifts this holiday season at the historic Gardner Store. The Gardner Store now features Vera Bradley handbags and totes, Zoppini Italian charm bracelets, Brighton bags and jewelry, candles, potpourri, Italian leather goods and much much more.

Main Street Antiques

136 South Main Street

Hours: Sat 10-6 & Sun 1-5 (Mon-Fri 11-6)

Come shop or just browse Main Street Antiques and this unique, historical building with 1800's atmosphere and original tin ceilings. The 9,000 square foot building with three floors houses over 60 dealers with wares from glassware to pottery to antique mahogany, oak, walnut and cherry furniture.

Shooting Star Gallery

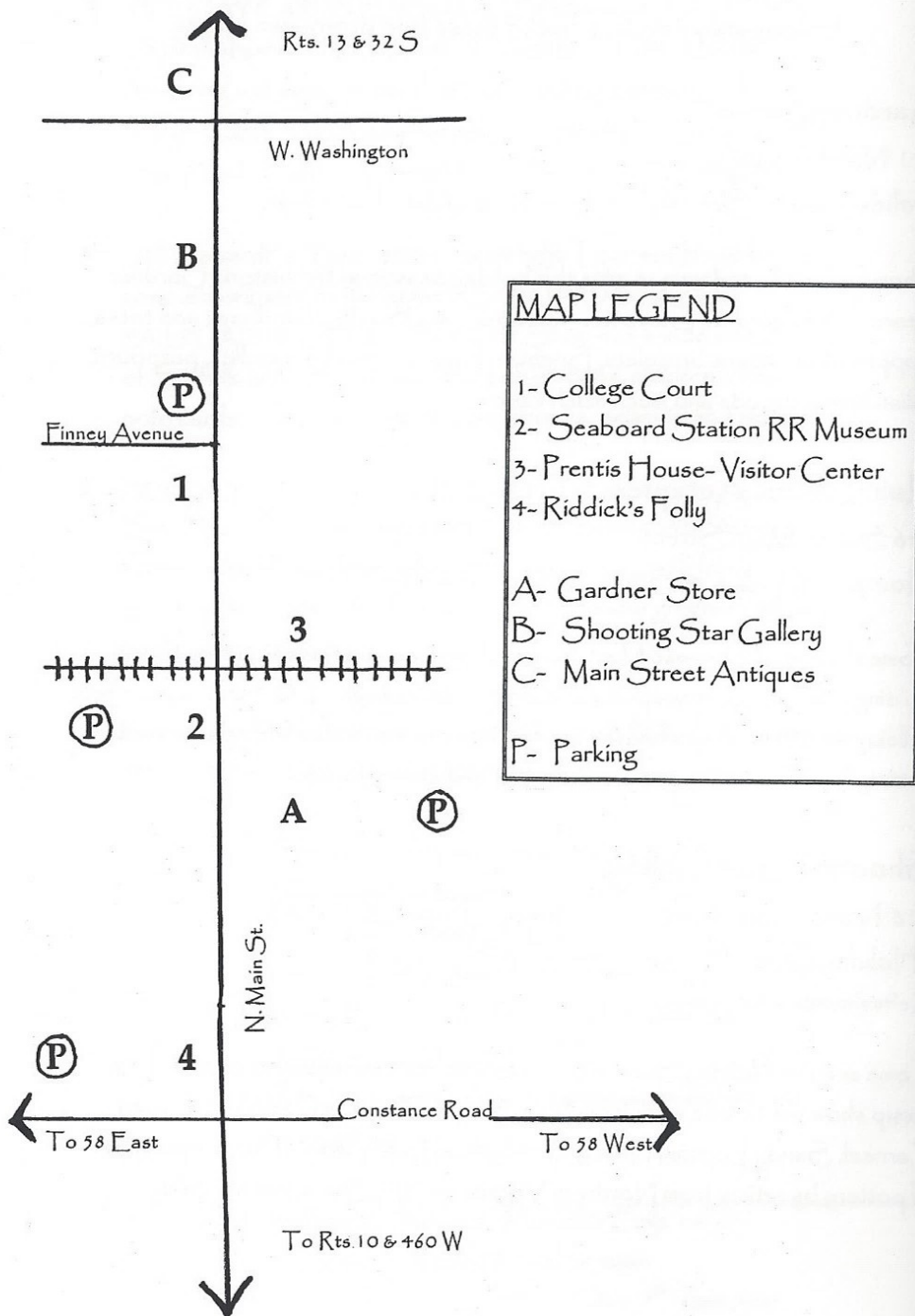
118 North Main Street Hours: Tues- Sat 10-5

"Holiday Open House" Dec 6th & 7th 1-5pm

(Refreshments will be served)

Come see the Holiday Show which is geared for the holiday shopper. This group show will include work from Mary Yaeger, Brenda C. Wright, Kacey Carneal, Sandy Lupton, Nancy Kinzinger and many more. Plus, a special show of pottery by artists from Northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley.

Map of Tour Area- Downtown Suffolk



Ticket Information

\$8.00 block ticket (purchased prior to Dec. 6th)

\$10.00 block ticket (purchased day of tour)

\$5.00 single house ticket

Where to purchase tickets :

- ❖ Seaboard Station Railroad Museum
- ❖ Riddick's Folly
- ❖ On the days of tour, tickets may be purchased at College Court

For information call : #757-923-4750

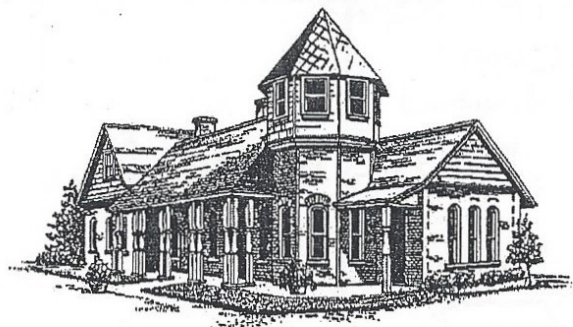


Seaboard Station Railroad Museum
and Gift Shop

326 N. Main Street

Historic Downtown Suffolk

*Tour our restored 1885 train station,
owned & operated by the Historical Society*



Find unique gifts for the holidays

Holiday Greenery & Wreath Demonstration & Sale

Sat., Dec. 6 starting at 2:00 pm

Extended Hours during Tour

Sat., 10:00 am – 7:00 pm

Sun., 1:00 – 7:00 pm

757-923-4750

snhs@exis.net



Thank You to the following individuals for all of their efforts and hard work for the 2003 Candlelight Tour:

Decorators

Ann Carr, Susan Carr, Karen Grogan, and Bertha-Poulson

Design and Production for Tour Booklet

Hunter Duggan and Sue Woodward

Artwork for Tour Booklet

*Suzanne Pruitt for drawings of the bungalows of College Court.

Lee King for drawing of the College Court gate.

Tour Booklet Sponsors

Thanks to the businesses listed on the following page for their financial support in producing this tour booklet.

Lastly, we are grateful to the homeowners of College Court and to Garcia Development for bringing this wonderful Suffolk landmark back to life. Thank you for allowing the community to see first-hand the success of this renovation.

*Drawings of College Court bungalows by Suzanne Morris Pruitt are used with permission by the Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society and are not to be reproduced without the artist's permission.

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of the following contributors:

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